

Message Text

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NESCO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AORG, OCON, UNESCO

SUBJECT: 100TH EXBD ITEM 3.1: STUDY OF LEGAL AND
PRACTICAL IMPLICATIONS OF POSSIBLE CHANGE
IN THE UNESCO BUDGET CYCLE

SUMMARY: THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE OF UNESCO EXECUTIVE
BOARD WILL CONSIDER SUBJECT ITEM ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER
21. FOLLOWING IS PERMDEL'S ANALYSIS OF AND RECOM-
MENDATION ON THE ISSUE. SINCE IT, OBVIOUSLY, HAS
UN-WIDE IMPLICATIONS, DEPARTMENT'S GUIDANCE REQUESTED.
END SUMMARY.

1. AS DEPARTMENT AWARE, SUBJECT ITEM STEMS FROM UN
INSPECTOR MAURICE BERTRAND'S REPORT (JIU/REP/74/1) ON
MEDIUM-TERM PLANNING IN THE UN SYSTEM, WHICH, INTER
ALIA, RECOMMENDED THAT "UNESCO SHOULD CONSIDER THE
POSSIBILITY AND DESIRABILITY OF ADOPTING PERIODS
BEGINNING WITH EVEN YEARS FOR ITS PROGRAM BUDGETS AND
PLANNING, AS IN THE OTHER (UN) ORGANIZATIONS." THIS
VIEW WAS ENDORSED BY THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE ON
CO-ORDINATION (ACC) IN 1974, WHICH HAD RECOGNIZED MERIT
IN ALL AGENCIES CHOOSING THE SAME SIX-YEAR PERIOD AND
RECOMMENDED THAT "THE UNITED NATIONS WOULD HAVE A PLAN
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OF SIX RATHER THAN FOUR YEARS."

2. THE ISSUE WAS DISCUSSED AT PREVIOUS (99TH) EXBD (DOC 99 EX/2) WHICH MADE NO FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS BUT DECIDED TO RESUME EXAMINATION OF THIS QUESTION AT THE 100TH EXBD SESSION, FIRST AT ITS SPECIAL COMMITTEE FORUM.

3. AT THE 99TH EXBD SESSION, USDEL WELCOMED INSPECTOR BERTRAND'S PROPOSAL STRESSING THE NEED FOR HARMONIZATION OF PROGRAM AND BUDGET CYCLES WITHIN THE UN FAMILY. FURTHERMORE, ALONG WITH OTHER DELEGATIONS (E.G. FRG, UK AND JAPAN), WE EXPRESSED OUR TENTATIVE SUPPORT FOR THE OPTIONAL SOLUTION PROPOSED IN PARA. 30 OF DOC. 99 EX/2, BUT RESERVED RIGHT TO RETURN TO WHOLE ISSUE AFTER FURTHER STUDIES. AT THE SAME TIME, USDEL EXPRESSED HOPE THAT THERE WOULD BE NO NEED TO CALL THE EXTRA-ORDINARY SESSION OF THE GENCONF, AS ENVISAGED IN THIS OPTIONAL SOLUTION.

4. WHILE RECOGNIZING THE NEED FOR EXBD TO GIVE FURTHER GUIDANCE ON THIS MATTER TO THE DG AND, INDEED, TO THE 19TH GENCONF, IF WE ARE TO BEGIN THIS HARMONIZATION EFFORT IN A MEANINGFUL AND COORDINATED WAY, WE SUPPORT THE POINT MADE BY THE DG AND OTHER EXBD MEMBERS THAT THE 20TH GENCONF WOULD BE REQUIRED TO TAKE CERTAIN DECISIONS, OF BOTH LEGAL AND PROCEDURAL NATURE, REFERRED TO IN DOC. 99 EX/2.

5. PERMDEL WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING, BEFORE SEPT. 21 A.M., SPECIFIC DEPARTMENT'S GUIDANCE ON THIS QUESTION OF UN-WIDE IMPORTANCE AS WELL AS TALKING POINTS, AS APPROPRIATE.
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